

14. Waste Disposal

Regulations: 180 NAC 4-039, 180 NAC 3-025, 180 NAC 3-030, 180 NAC 3-019 180 NAC 1-004.

Criteria: *Radioactive materials must be disposed of in accordance with Agency requirements by transfer to an authorized recipient. Appropriate records must be maintained.*

When disposing of fixed gauges, licensees must transfer them to an authorized recipient. Authorized recipients are the original manufacturer or distributor of the device, a commercial firm licensed by the Agency, NRC or an Agreement State to accept radioactive waste from other persons, or another specific licensee authorized to possess the licensed material (i.e., its license specifically authorizes the same radionuclide, form, and use).

Before transferring radioactive material, a licensee must verify that the recipient is properly authorized to receive it using one of the methods described in 180 NAC 3-025. In addition, all packages containing radioactive sources must be prepared and shipped in accordance with Agency and DOT regulations. Records of the transfer must be maintained as required by 180 NAC 3-030.

Response from Applicant: Provide a statement that: “Disposal will be by transfer of the radioactive material to a licensee specifically authorized to possess it.” The licensee should establish and include waste disposal procedures in its radiation safety program.

Because of the difficulties and costs associated with disposal of sealed sources, applicants should preplan the disposal. Applicants may want to consider contractual arrangements with the source supplier as part of a purchase agreement. Significant problems can arise from improper gauge transfer or failure to dispose of gauges in a proper and timely manner.